CRATER DEVOID OF SMOKE.

Will history repeat itself with relation to the recent disappearance of smoke and steam from Kilauea volcano and an eruption with a flow of lava ensue? A minute study of the eruptions in former years indicate that whenever smoke and steam have failed to issue from the deep chasm of Halemaumau, it portends an outbreak. The unusual number of earthquakes which have recently been felt in Kau district on the island of Hawaii as well as in Hono-Iulu, the last shock being felt here less than a week ago, brings to mind similar occurrences in Kilauea in former times.

Rev. W. D. Westervelt, who has just returned from a visit to Kilauea, studied the crater day after day, taking a large number of photographs in which are portrayed dense volumes of smoke rising from the pit. Other photographs taken | a few days later show no signs of smoke, although Mr. Westervelt says that occasional puffs of steam rise from some of the cracks. As far as he could peer down into the pit there was to be seen only the jiggling, tremulous movement of hot air.

From a drawing made of the crater in its present form it has now assumed the appearance of a funnel the small end downward, with shelves opening toward the interior just below the rim.

In the year 1840 Hillebrand makes the first mention of the disappearance of smoke and shortly after this was noticed there was an eruption, and a flow of lava travelled over Puna to the sea. On April 18, 1868, the smoke disappeared and shortly afterward there was an underground flow of lava which came out near Kahuku, Kau. Again in 1880 the same thing occurred and a flow of lava started off which threatened to invade the town of Hilo. Fire disappeared from the bottomless pit for a week or more. Another similar occurrence took place in 1886, followed by earthquakes and an underground flow of lava. In 1891 after a disappearance of fire and smoke the crater became exceedingly active. Just where the flow of lava went or by what means it freed itself is not known, but it is supposed to have taken an underground route to the sea. In 1893 the pit filled up, no smoke was to be seen, and an eruption followed. In 1894 the lake sank and no smoke was visible.

Most of the disappearances of smoke June and July.

circuit of the crater and found not a unusual looseness of the bowels. Sold rising in beetling sternness, gave the Ltd., agents for Hawail.

Don't.

Shy At

CAVE FROM WHICH LAVA FLOW-ED INTO PUNA

SMOKE ISSUING FROM KILAUEA.

(Photo by W. D. Westervelt.)

ANOTHER VIEW OF THE PIT.

tion. Steam could be seen rising from POLISH NOBLEMAN'S VISIT TO KILAUEA 66 YEARS AGO

s about the present condition of Kilauea. Occasionally little puffs of smoke are seen coming from the sides and from the floor of the crater there is a wavy motion of hot air. CHAMBERLAIN'S Colic, Cholera gentlemen," has the following account ly bases, by which that great philo-

and Diarrhoea Remedy is everywhere of a visit to the Volcano of Count sopher explained the convulsions of acknowledged to be the most success- Strzelecki, a polish nobleman: have been brought to the attention of ful medicine in use for bowel com-observers in the months of April, May, plaints. It always cures and cures quickly. It can be depended upon even A writer describing the appearance of in the most severe and dangerous cases Kilauea in 1868 says: "We made a of cholera morbus, dysentery and diortrace of liquid lava. The wast cliffs, by all dealers. Benson, Smith & Co.,

place an appearance of frightful desola-

most parts of the crater and mineral

Rev. Mr. Westervelt states that this

gases were perceptible."

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century in Honolulu and elsewhere.

My Dear Sir, Your kind request to supply the valuable publication of the Spectator, with an account of my visit to the Volcano of Kirauea on Hawaii, both pains and flatters me; for I regret much that my limited stay here, the daily current and accumulating objects of new and interesting inquiries render any circumstantial description of it really impossible to me. A few facts, and fewer observations which a hasty and rough sketch brings forth, is all I am able for the moment to supply give you the slightest idea of the impressions which the awful sublimity of the volcano produced upon my does not yield as easily as memory-it

rapture-the enthusiasm once gone by, What I remember, and long shall recollect, as showing the mighty influence of mighty objects upon me, are the difficulties I had to struggle with, before my eye could be torn away from the idle, vacant but ecstatic gazing with which I regarded the great Whole, down to the analytical part of the wondrous and unparalleled scene before me; I say unparalleled, because having visited most of the European and American volcanos, I find the

does not reproduce sensations; the

greatest of them inferior to Kirauea crater in intensity, grandeur, and ex-The abrupt and precipitous cliff which forms the N. N. E. wall of the crater,-found, after my repeated observations, to be elevated 4,104 feet half-cooled scoria, sunk to the depth of 300 yards, and containing more than 328,000 square yards of convulsed torrents of earths in igneous fusion, and gaseous fluids constantly effervescing -boiling-spouting-rolling in all directions like waves of a disturbed sea, violently beating the edge of the caldrens like an infuriated surf, and like surf spreading all around its spray in the form of capillary glass which fills the air, and adheres in a flaky and pendulous form to the distorted and broken masses of the lava all around; five caldrons each of about 5,700 square yards, almost at the level of the great and containing only the twelfth part of the red liquid; sixth caldron is encircled by a wall of accumulated scoria of fifty Co., Ehlers' block. yards high, forming the S. S. W. point the Hale man man of the natives to chiefs were congigned—the sacrifices to abysses the caldron of caldrons-exhibiting the most frightful area of about 300,000 square yards, bubbling red hot lava-changing incessantly its than earthly; around are blocks of lava, scoria, slags of every description and combination, here elevated by the endless number of superimposed lay-

ers, in perpendicular walls of 1000 feet high-there torn asunder, dispersed, cracked, or remodded-everywhere

terror, convulsion-righty engine of nature-and nothingness of man! No where does the solution of the

With the old spelling of "Kirauea," Humphrey Davy, receive a more palthe Spectator, a Honolulu magazine of pable illustration than here; the access of the water to the ignited masses 1838 "conducted by an association of of these minerals of alkaline and earthvolcanic fires, is displayed here in most pertentous, most awful effects. It is only to those millions of vents all superabundance of steam escapes-to the millions of fissures through which the sulphurous and sulphuric acids liberate themselves from beneath, that the preservation of Hawaii from utter destruction, by the expansive force of steam and gasses, can be ascribed.

The nature of the volcano, with its uncommonly intense heat, and so many wide and easy openings, is, to eject nothing without alteration, and to sublime every variety of substance which canic glass in capillary forms, and | many perfect vitrifications; the muriimagination; that part of our being ate of ammonia in efflorescence, often conchoidal, often in elongated hexahedrals-and in one single instance, even in that rare form of a cubic chrystal; thus, the sulphuret of arsenic, both as realgar and orpiment; the sulphur itself in most beautiful incrustations, chrystalized in cubic or truncatel octahedrons; the petro alumniaris of Ssolfa, (Italy,) or alkaline sulphate of alumine imbedded sometimes in crevices of lava, sometimes in argilaious earth; thus, the singular and rare cavernous lava, known hitherto to exist only in Iceland-its large tumefactions in blisters and bubbles, from a crust of the finest gloss to an arch of four feet thick, forming caverns through which the superabundance of ava in the crater discharges itself, as through subterranean tunnels, in all

directions of the island. A prolific imagination can find here a vast field for fanciful speculation on o above the level of the sea-overhangs; the origin, duration and probable or an area of 3,150,000 square yards of possible results of the continued operations of this frightful and gigantic volcano. Science will never tire in the study of Nature; but, alas! beyond what she sees, and what strict inductive forms allow her to conclude, she must stop-admire-bew and repeat.

Sapientia hujus mundi stultitia est. With the greatest respect and con-

believe me, my Dear Sir, Your most obedient servant, PAUL EDMUND DE STRZELECKI, To the Rev. J. Diell. Honolulu.

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